

Freak Plays

That Decide Baseball Championships

By Hugh S. Fullerton

Detroit's Tigers and Philadelphia's Athletics were struggling in the final series of the baseball season in the Tigers' fair. Upon the outcome depended the championship of the American league, and the chance to meet the Chicago Cubs for the world's championship. The Athletics were ahead in the race, and although Mack's team had not ripened to its full strength it looked as if it would hold its lead. The game was the first of four that were to be played in Detroit, and in the eighth inning the Tigers were leading by the narrow margin of one run. Every member of the two teams knew that the first game probably would decide the series.

Detroit was clinging desperately to the one run lead that was earned by two terrific drives by Crawford and Cobb. Donovan was pitching magnificently, but he could not prevent the Athletics from hitting; time and again the Tigers were thrown back on the defensive and saved by the wonderful fielding feats of Cobb and Bush. The eighteen athletes were strained to the breaking point and each one was "on his toes" every instant. In the eighth inning the Athletics got a runner to second base with no one out. It looked like a tied score, perhaps victory, when one of the strangest freak plays ever seen intervened, saved Detroit, and turned the entire tide of the season. The batter twice attempted to sacrifice, failed and was forced to hit. He swung at a fast ball, high and outside the plate, and sent a twisting, teasing fly over the head of the first baseman, perhaps seventy feet back of the bag, and the ball was falling almost on the foul line, one of the few spots on the entire playing field where balls fall safe almost every time, just out of the reach of any fielder. Rossman, the first baseman, turned and tore down the foul line, his back directly to the plate, but from the first it was evident he could not reach the falling ball. Schaefer, who was playing second, had been playing in perfect position to cut off a right-field hit from the bat of a left-handed hitter. He started the instant the ball was hit and sprinted at top speed toward it. From short right came Ty Cobb, who, seeing the victory snatched from his team by sheer luck, had turned on the wonderful burst of speed that has made him the marvel of baseball. It looked as if Cobb might reach the ball by a feat possible only for him, yet Schaefer, although slower, had made a quicker start, claimed the catch and reached the ball. His final leap, made with hands outstretched, brought him to the ball just inside the foul line and, as he accomplished the wonderful catch, and while the crowd was roaring with applause, Cobb, unable to check himself in his frantic effort, crashed against Schaefer, turned a somersault over him and, as he went down, Schaefer allowed the ball to fall from his hands. A groan arose from the crowd. The Athletics runner on second had tried to get back to the base when he saw that Schaefer would reach the ball, and now he turned and raced for the



Hal Chase.

plate. Schaefer, dazed by the shock, reached for the ball, and in a sitting position, with a last effort before going "out," threw wildly to the infield, in hope that someone would catch it and stop the runner at third. He threw without aim, but the ball, going over Rossman's head, struck the grass, and went on the first bounce, into Schmidt's hands as he was striving to score from second. Philadelphia failed to score, Detroit won the game, won the series and finally won the pennant in the last few days of play. This play reveals the manner in which one turn of fortune may change an entire season's outcome and upset all the calculations of the baseball world. No one ever has been able to figure out the percentage of luck in the national game. I have heard players estimate that luck is 20 per cent, while others claim it is at least 65 per cent.

MAN WON'T STAND FOR IT

"Matchless House" Makes No Appeal to the Comfort-Loving Individual of This Day.

Commenting on the subject of a lecture to be delivered by a Boston highbrow—The Matchless House—a Boston newspaper says editorially: "The Matchless House! Who has not felt the brightly lighted abode void of its clear, perfectly illuminated equipment? Plenty of brilliant, artificial light, but not a thing to burn. Vain is it for the smoker to search for lamp, candle or gas burner at which to light his cigar, and hopeless is the quest of feminine frivolity which seeks for any flame or which to curl her hair. The Matchless House; there is a dreariness in its appalling neatness which banishes all coziness and comfort. "It will be a sad moment when the phrase, strike a light, is finally eliminated from the language. And though he have a matchbox in his pocket, man wants a matchbox also on the mantel; it is the cheerful insignia of a cheerful hearthstone. We all share in the primitive delight in kindling a fire on the hearth, and wherein can the wonders of electrical appliances ever succeed in rivaling the beauty of the blaze which starts up at our touch? We do not need to be instructed as to the value and convenience of the electric bulb. Yet after all, what is it but putting our treasure under glass? We want the pleasure of burning our fingers if we please, and while man retains the exultant memory of his first capture of the fire from heaven, he will not dwell content in any Matchless House."

made that way. Schaefer had no right to first base but was free to return to second if he could escape being touched, as no runner is out on the bases unless touched or forced. Chicago, evidently ignorant of the rules, was arguing heatedly and Manager Duffy ran from the third base coaching line to the pitcher's slab to appeal to the assistant umpire. Finally the ball was thrown to first base, but behind Schaefer, who instantly started for second and when the ball was thrown to second Milan made a dash for the plate. Schaefer achieved his purpose, even though Milan was caught at the plate. Then Washington protested the game, in case of defeat, on the grounds that, when the play was made, Chicago had ten men in uniform on the playing field. The game went to the twelfth inning and finally, with a runner on third base, and Schaefer again on first, the batter drove out a clean single that ended the contest. Still unsatisfied with the freaks of the day Schaefer ran from first down to second, stopped, looked around to see if anyone (especially an umpire) was looking, walked all the way around second base without touching it, and satisfied that he had duplicated Merkle's famous play, came off the field grinning. That evening he held a celebration to gloat over the White Sox and the umpires, not one of whom had observed his failure to touch the bag. Among the abnormal incidents that figured in the earlier history of the



Germany Schaefer.

national game, perhaps none is as well known to old-timers as the one which happened to Cliff Carroll, on the St. Louis grounds, when he was a member of the famous "Browns." Perhaps you have wondered why baseball players have plain shirt fronts, and why so few players have breast pockets. Cliff Carroll is the reason. He was running forward to take a base hit on the first bounce. The ball bounced crooked and hit him on the chest. He grabbed at the ball hastily and, as he clutched it, he shoved it down into the handkerchief pocket on his shirt front. The runner saw Carroll tugging and straining to tear the ball out of the pocket and instead of stopping at first, he sprinted on to second while Carroll, still trying to dislodge the ball, ran to second. The batter passed the fielder and turned for third with Carroll in pursuit. At third Carroll stopped and tried in vain to release the ball, and the runner kept on across the plate and scored the winning run. Chris von der Ahe, who at that time was at the head of the euphonio trio, Von der Ahe, Muckenfuss and Diddlebock, which operated the club, was furious and ordered all pockets removed from baseball shirts. Other teams followed and the pockets never have been restored, except by a few players who are willing to risk the repetition of the accident. Of all the good luck freaks that I ever heard recounted, the best was that which happened to Frank Isbell when he was playing with St. Paul in the old Western league. In those days baseball on Sunday was not permitted within the corporation limits of St. Paul, and a Sunday game had been erected outside the city's jurisdiction. The ground was extremely small and was inclosed by a high fence. So small was the inclosure that batters hitting the ball hard against the fences were compelled to sprint to first, because if the ball happened to rebound directly to the fielder, he could throw a slow runner out. As it required about four hits of their equivalent in errors to yield a run, small scores were the rule. In the ninth inning of this game Milwaukee had two runs the advantage and there were runners on first and second with Isbell at bat. St. Paul's only logical hope was for a home run over one of the high fences. Isbell hit a hard line smash to right field against the fence. The runner on first was a slow man and the fielder squatted, expecting the ball to rebound to him and to whiff and force the slow man at second base, ending the game. But the ball didn't rebound. It impaled itself on a wire nail about ten feet from the fence, and while the Milwaukee outfielders were hunting a ladder, Isbell circled the bases and won the game. Another peculiar play once gave the Chicago White Sox a game that

seemed lost. Harvey, a left-handed pitcher, was compelled to play third base because of the badly crippled condition of his team and in the seventh inning, Chicago being one ahead, the opposing team got runners to first and second before anyone went out. Naturally the play was for the batter to push down a sacrifice bunt. The White Sox had a system of play designed to kill the sacrifice in that situation. The shortstop and second baseman, aided by the pitcher, were to hold the runner at second as close to the base as possible. The third baseman was to play close, as if intending to take the bunt, but as the ball was being pitched he was to run back, cover third, while the pitcher fielded the bunted ball, threw to third and forced out the runner at that point. Harvey had been carefully coached how the play was to be executed, but the better, detecting the play from the actions of the shortstop and second baseman, changed signals and decided to try to drive the ball past Harvey hard instead of bunting. As the pitcher wound up Harvey whirled and sprinted back to third. The batter chopped the ball hard and sent a line hit straight toward third base. The ball struck Harvey on the back of the head, and bounded high; the sub-third baseman, as he went staggering on over the base, caught the ball and, by a fast throw to second, doubled the runner off. As Harvey came off the field nursing the bump on his head Manager Jones remarked: "That's using your noodle, Old Man."

Leeford Tannehill was the hero of a remarkable play late in the season of 1906, and as the play saved the game for Chicago, and as the White Sox won the pennant by a one-game margin and then beat the Cubs for the world's championship, the freak play might be said to have given the Sox the world's championship. The game was against St. Louis and with the White Sox one run in the lead, an error and a two-base hit put Brown runners on second and third with one out. The infield was called close to cut off the runner at the plate and prevent a tied score, as Jones, the manager, saw his team could not hit the St. Louis pitcher and figured a tie probably meant a defeat. The ball was hit fiercely and straight at Tannehill, who is one of the surest fielders in the business and possessed of a wonderful pair of hands for blocking hard-driven balls. The ball appeared to be bounding true but on the short bound, it struck something solid straight at Tannehill's chin, hit him and, as he reeled from the knock-out blow, the ball fell back directly into his hands. He threw to the plate, then sat down looking foolish and took the full count before he was able to get up.

Larry Doyle's lucky kick which almost gave the Giants the National league championship in 1908 is another historic freak of play. Those perennial rivals, the Giants and Cubs, were playing what seemed the deciding series of the year; the Cubs needed one run to tie and had two men on bases, when the batter hit viciously between Doyle and second. Doyle reached the ball but it broke through his hands, and it seemed as if the error had given Chicago the game. Instead, the ball hit Doyle's shin, bounded straight into the hands of Bridwell, who was on second waiting for the throw, and an easy double play retired the Chicago team, New York winning by one run.

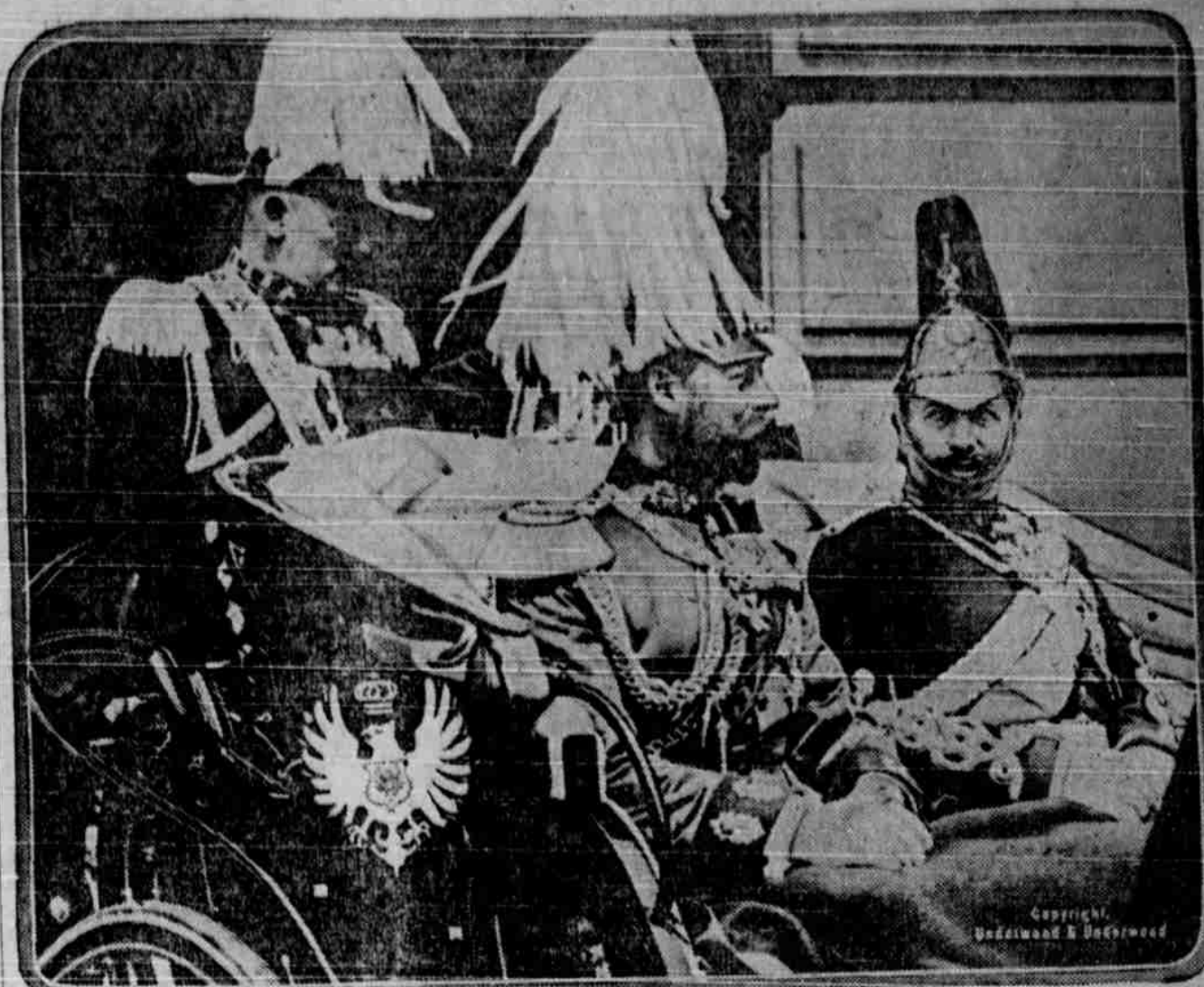
The tales most often told are those illustrating how ill fortune will pursue teams and the instances of "runs of luck" and "tough breaks" are as numerous as there are games multiplied by players. The Chicago Cubs were playing what seemed the deciding series of the year; the Cubs needed one run to tie and had two men on bases, when the batter hit viciously between Doyle and second. Doyle reached the ball but it broke through his hands, and it seemed as if the error had given Chicago the game. Instead, the ball hit Doyle's shin, bounded straight into the hands of Bridwell, who was on second waiting for the throw, and an easy double play retired the Chicago team, New York winning by one run.



Ty Cobb.

stitute position on the team more than one more season, made two three-base hits and each of them gave the White Sox a victory. Hal Chase lost a game for New York last season in a peculiar fashion. Two runners were on the bases and two men were out when an easy bouncer was hit to third. Harzell made a perfect throw and the inning seemed over, but as the ball came near to him Chase dodged suddenly, threw up his hands as if to protect his face, two runs scored and the Highlanders recorded another hard luck defeat. It developed later that a photographer was squatting on the ground outside the coaches' box and the sun reflected from the metal of the camera dazzled Chase just at the critical instant and caused him to lose sight of the ball.

KING AND KAISER RIDING TOGETHER



Photographs have been received in this country illustrating the incidents attending the wedding of Princess Victoria Louise, only daughter of the emperor of Germany, and Prince Ernest Augustus of Cumberland. This one shows King George of England and the Kaiser riding together after the ceremony at Potsdam.

GIRLS QUIT SCHOOL

Government Looks Up Cause for Their Non-Attendances.

Investigation Shows They Do Not Abandon Opportunity for Education and Go to Work Because Parents Need the Money.

Washington.—The idea that children leave school to go to work because their parents need the money, is vigorously combatted in a bulletin issued by the United States bureau of education. The authors of the bulletin have made a careful study of trade and labor conditions among girls in Worcester, Mass., preliminary to the establishment of a trade school for girls. They find that from one-half to three-fourths of the girls at work in the factories could have had further schooling if they had wanted to or if their parents had cared to insist upon it.

The survey showed that the number of girls between 14 and 16 years of age who leave school is constantly increasing. During the past five years many more girls between those ages left the Worcester schools than can be accounted for by increase in population. Only about 17 per cent. of them had finished the grammar schools; most of them left in the sixth and seventh grades.

Why did the girls leave school? Various reasons were assigned by the girls themselves. Some 30 girls said they "did not like school," "could not get along with the teacher," "were not promoted," or "wanted to go to work." Two were working to help pay for a piano. One of them was a cash girl of 14 years, who had left the sixth grade to go to work in a department store for \$2, later \$2.50 a week. Another was a girl of 15 from the eighth grade, who went to work in a corset factory for \$1 and rose to \$4.82. Still another girl was taking music lessons and contributing to the payment on the piano.

Twenty-seven girls were found at home. In some cases they had left to help in housework, while a few had left at a time of temporary stress and then had not returned to school. Four girls had changed places with the mother, who worked in a corset factory, laundry, or some such place, while the girl whose wage-earning power was small kept house for the mother of the children.

Curious differences as to what the parents thought they could afford were discovered. The mother of a family of eight children, living in apparently direct poverty, would have been glad to have sacrificed and pinched still further to have had her daughter stay in school longer, if she would. The mother of another family of six, living in a comfortable apartment house, with hardwood floors, piano, and other luxuries, said her daughter wished to stay in school longer, but the burden of supporting the family was too heavy for the father to bear alone; so the girl was taken out of school to go to work. A visit to a Swedish family revealed a carpenter and his wife, a washerwoman, who had just built and owned a new three-story apartment house. Yet the 15-year-old daughter had been sent to work in a paper goods factory at \$2 a week. "The question 'Why did you leave school?' was put to some 336 more mature workers in the corset trade. Ninety-one per cent. of these women had left school between the ages of 13 and 16, and fully 50 per cent. because of their dislike of school or because they wanted to go to work. Of 74 workers in a clothing factory 85 per cent. had left school

between the ages of 13 and 16, 25 per cent. of their own volition."

In the opinion of the authors of the bulletin, conditions such as were found in Worcester emphasize the imperative need for special training of a practical sort for girls between the ages of 13 and 15. In the main the children left school simply because they disliked the school work. Not getting the kind of training they might have liked and would have profited by, they blindly joined the army of shifting, inefficient, discontented girls that go from one monotonous factory job to another, and, because of their lack of training, rarely rise above the class of low-paid, unskilled workers.

MAN VICTIM OF BAD DREAM

Attends a Fire, Fights a Monkey and Dog, Breaks Three Toes and Then Wakes Up.

Kansas City.—The alarm rang sharply, the time was 4 o'clock in the morning and the signal showed the fire was in one of the packing houses.

Woman Solon Defends Sex

Senator Helen Ring Robinson Says Feminine Voters Don't Drink or Stuff Ballot Boxes.

New York.—Having vacated her seat in the Colorado legislature just long enough to make a flying trip east, Senator Helen R. Robinson of Denver made her first public appearance here when she addressed a meeting of the Equal Suffrage league, in the Astor hotel. Every woman there rose and saluted the only woman senator in the United States.

"All these stories you read in the ladies' lingerie journals are false," declared Senator Robinson. "Our

Capt. J. F. Pelletier of the insurance patrol, rolled from his bed into his clothes, slid down the pole into the apparatus room and within a few minutes was leading his squad against the flames. Finally the flames were subdued, and the captain stood watching the smoldering ruins.

He heard a growl and a whining yelp. A dog was chasing a monkey down Central avenue. The monkey saw the captain, so did the dog, and immediately they forgot their mutual disregard and attacked him. The captain's right foot shot out and the monkey went sprawling through the air. The foot kicked out again—and the captain woke up—in his room on the second floor of the patrol building on Charlotte street, near Eleventh.

His foot pained him. On examination he found it covered with blood. Three toes had been mashed and it was five minutes before he discovered he had been kicking the wall beside his bed in his dream.

13,000 Miles for Trouseau. San Francisco.—On a journey of 13,000 miles that she may purchase a wedding trousseau to her liking, Miss Margaret Restarick, daughter of Bishop H. B. Restarick, of Honolulu, arrived here en route to Boston. The wedding will occur in Honolulu.

there that would make little old London look like Sleepy Hollow. Some persons say that voting takes such a lot of time. I vote just around a corner from home and it takes on an average of twenty minutes a year to cast my ballot. Sometimes I stay a little longer to chat about new millinery fashions with a friend."

In her soft blue silk costume and hat which matched her eyes Senator Robinson looked decidedly feminine.

JUST ESCAPES BEING EATEN

Lion Springs on Women in Cage, but Is Killed by Owner Almost at Once.

Altoona, Pa.—With the hot breath of a lion fanning her cheek and his ears mingling with her screams for aid as he stood over her in an iron bound cage, Mlle. Florence, a woman animal trainer of the Ferrar Carnival company, faced death by being eaten alive here.

Mlle. Florence had forgotten her whip in the cage. As she went to recover it the beast sprang through the air, landing with full weight on her shoulders. Realizing that his sharp fangs would sink into her flesh, Col. Francis Ferrar, who chanced to be nearby, acted almost instantly.

With two jumps he was at the cage with a Colt revolver. He sent a stream of bullets into the lion's hide at such short range that a burn surrounded every bullet hole. The revolver did his work and the king of the jungle fell dead with his claws entangled in the clothing of the woman. She was saved but severely scratched. The animal was worth \$5,000.

Twins Postpone Slander Suit. Scranton, Pa.—Suits of twins delivered in one night to Mrs. Ellen O'Boyle, Mrs. Hannah Boyd and Mrs. Margaret Stanton of South Scranton, caused the postponement of a slander suit brought by Mrs. Joseph Savage against Mrs. Joseph Sildage. The mothers visited by the stork were important witnesses.

Fined Over Telephone. Yonkers, N. Y.—E. P. Robinson, of Newark, testified over the telephone from home and paid a fine of \$10 for automobile speeding. The fine was taken out of his bail.

was made. Finally a piece of meat was waved in front of the animal's nose and it forgot its duty. The dog followed the woman in the patrol wagon.

Stretching itself at full length in front of her cell, the dog remained on guard.

Farmer Keeps His VVow. Asheville, N. C.—Rather than retract his vow not to pay a cow tax of \$75, a local dairyman sold his \$25,000 farm for \$15,000.

DOG GUARDS WOMAN TOPER

Meat Finally Tempts Him From Post Long Enough for Police to Assist His Mistress.

St. Paul.—Big Mark, a huge St. Bernard, was taken into custody on a charge of disturbing the peace. A griot of other accusations, such as interfering with an officer, disorderly conduct, attempted assault, etc., could be lodged against the animal, but the

circumstances were extenuating and leniency was shown. His mistress, a visitor in the city, fell in a stupor. Big Mark rebuked the unseemly curiosity of passers-by with vociferous yelps and threatening attitude. Patrolman Kins exhausted every known form of persuasion to distract the attention of the animal, but his efforts were futile.

The dog dove an imaginary dead rat within three feet of the prostrate form and "woofed" loud warnings when any move to approach the pair